

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183266

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS
SUBJECT: VESCO CASE: LEGAL CONSULTANT CASTILLO
REF: SAN JOSE 3118

1. DEPT. PASSED INFO REFTEL TO JUSTICE DEPT. WHICH HAS TO AUTHORIZE RETENTION OF CASTILLO FOR CONSULTATION AND WAS INFORMED AS FOLLOWS: JUSTICE IS AMENABLE TO CONSULTATION OF CASTILLO WITH STAFF OF U.S. ATTORNEY IN NEW YORK ON EXTRADITION AND IMPLICATIONS OF COSTA RICAN EXTRADITION LAW, BUT HAS TO HAVE SOME IDEA OF COST FACTOR BEFORE AUTHORIZATION WILL BE GIVEN. JUSTICE IS RECEPTIVE TO PAYING TRAVEL EXPENSES TO NEW YORK AND HOTEL AND OTHER ACTUAL EXPENSES AND A "REASONABLE" CONSULTATION FEE.

2. ALL OF ABOVE EXPENSES WITH EXCEPTION OF CONSULTATION FEE CAN BE ESTIMATED BY DEPT. EMBASSY THEREFORE REQUESTED TO APPROACH CASTILLO AND ASK HIM IF HE IS AMENABLE TO CONSULTATION WITH STAFF OF U.S. ATTORNEY IN NEW YORK AND REQUEST ESTIMATE FROM HIM OF CONSULTATION FEE FOR 2 OR 3 DAYS WHICH WOULD BE CONSIDERED NECESSARY. EMBASSY MAY ADVISE HIM JUSTICE IS ALSO WILLING TO REIMBURSE HIS EXPENSES AND THAT WHEN CONSULTATION FEE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY JUSTICE THE DEPARTMENT WILL OBTAIN FROM JUSTICE A LETTER RECOGNIZING HIS RETENTION FOR
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CONSULTATION.

3. DEPT AND JUSTICE CONCUR IN HAVING CASTILLO REPRESENT NEW YORK VISIT AS A PERSONAL TRIP. BEST WAY TO APPROACH THIS AT MOMENT WOULD BE FOR CASTILLO TO PAY EXPENSES OF AIR FARE, ETC. OUT OF HIS PERSONAL FUNDS AND SUBMIT THOSE EXPENSES AS PART OF HIS ITEMIZED BILL WHICH HE WOULD PRESENT AFTER THE CONSULTATION TO THE JUSTICE DEPT FOR PAYMENT. THUS IT WOULD NOT INITIALLY APPEAR THAT USG IS "PAYING HIS WAY." IF THIS METHOD PRESENTS PROBLEMS TO CASTILLO, DEPT AND JUSTICE WILL TRY TO WORK SOMETHING ELSE OUT. KISSINGER

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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